provinces to carry on with their respective functions as heretofore.

Dr. Sun's resignation message recommended the election of "Mr. Yuan/' as "a man of political experience, upon whose constructive ability our united nation looks forward for the consolidation of its interests/'

Receiving this message on February 14, the National Council decided to defer action until the following day. Then, to the general amazement, it voted by 20 to 5 to retain the Capital in Peking. Reminded that one of the conditions of Yuan's election was the transfer of the Capital, it reversed that decision. When nominations were called for, the name of General Li Yuan-hung was put forward by two members. Before the ballot was taken, however, it was withdrawn, and Yuan was unanimously elected. Five days later General Li Yuan-hung was formally, and unanimously, elected Vice-President.

Yuan Shih-kai was now urged to come to Nanking to take the oath of office. But it is doubtful whether he ever intended to place himself in the hands of the Southern Republicans. On one pretext or another, he dallied, and on February 20 a Republican Delegation accompanied by Tang Shao-yi left for Peking to press this point. He put them off by a promise to come South in a fortnight. A few nights later the Third Division mutinied, and proceeded to loot and burn property throughout

the Capital. The Southern Delegates had to take refuge in the Legation Quarter. Mutinies followed in Tientsin, Paotingfu and other Northern cities,